Demand for anti-dumping duty on import of milk and milk products

1111. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that milk and milk products are being imported from various countries;

(b) if so, the details of imports during the last three years, country-wise and year-wise; and

(c) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the demand as reported in the press which have been raised by Dr. Varghese Kurien the doyen of Cooperative Movement in India for imposition of anti-dumping duty on import of milk and milk products from US and developed countries in the Europe; and

(d) if so, the steps being contemplated by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The details of imports of milk and milk products during the last three years, country-wise and year-wise are given below:

(Values in Rs. Lacs)

Country	1999-2000	2000-2001	2001-2002
New Zealand	4427.31	2447.31	1300.81
Australia	3196.1	908.6	449.24
Netherlands	2895.69	162.08	39.26
Germany	2006.57	66.77	19.65
Ireland	1870.33	—	—
Belgium	1299.69	584.05	2.43
U K	716.51	2.31	110.62
France	367.18	127.43	757.03
Argentina	253.77	—	—
Denmark	157.55	141.86	264.4
Other Countries	849.97	368.24	295.32
TOTAL:	18040.67	4808.65	3238.76

Source: DGCI&S

(c) and (d) Anti-dumping cases are normally initiated on the basis of a fully documented petition submitted by the domestic industry containing sufficient evidence in respect of alleged dumping, injury and causal link between the two. The DGAD has so far not received any petition for initiation of investigation into import of milk & milk products from US and developed countries in Europe. However on the basis of a petition filed by the Centre for International Trade in Agriculture and Agro based Industries (CITA), the DGAD has initiated investigation into import of Butter Oil from New Zealand *vide* notification dated 26.11.2002. The investigation is in progress.

Establishment of free trade zone with ASEAN Countries

†1112. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made efforts for constituting a free trade zone in co-operation with ASEAN countries;

(b) if so, the progress made in this regard; and

(c) the details with regard to short-term and long-term benefits which India is getting after including itself in the aforesaid organisation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) to (c) In the first ASEAN Economic Ministers (AEM)—India Consultations held on 15th September, 2002 in Brunei, Darussalam, the Ministers agreed to establish an ASEAN-India Economic Linkages Task Force (AIELTF) to prepare a draft Framework Agreement to enhance ASEAN-India trade and economic cooperation and recommend measures for integration towards closer economic partnership. So far, two meetings of the Task Force have been held in December 2002 (New Delhi) and February 2003 (Jakarta).

A joint study on AFTA India Linkages for the Enhancement of Trade & Investment undertaken by the Indian Institute of Foreign Trade and the Malaysian Institute of Economic Research has proposed for Regional Trade & Investment Area (RTIA) between India and ASEAN in the long term. The study has highlighted that ASEAN and India offer a large market with a combined population of 1.485 billion people and therefore, there is

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.